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UNCLAS MADRID 001834

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/TRA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [FAIR](#) [SP](#) [ICAO](#)

SUBJECT: SPAIN REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR ITS ICAO GROUP II RE-ELECTION

1. This is an action request. See paragraph 4.

2. Embassy received a dip note from the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation requesting USG support and affirmative vote for the GOS's reelection as member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council, Group II. The vote will take place during ICAO's meetings in Montreal from September 28 through October 8.

3. An informal translation of the pertinent language of the dip note follows:

Begin Informal Translation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America in Madrid and has the honor to communicate that Spain is going to stand for the re-election as member of the ICAO Council, Group II, at the elections that will be during the 35th Session of the Assembly of this organization to be held in Montreal from 28 September to 8 October 2004.

Spain has belonged to the ICAO Council uninterruptedly since 1951, having taken an active part in different Committees and Working Groups of the Organization, especially in operational safety, protection of air transport, and development of the world system of satellite navigation areas.

Spain's geographic situation, as well as other factors (e.g., economic and political factors), make it a country with special interests in transport and air navigation, and in the promotion of international civil aviation.

In 2003, the movement of airships and passengers in Spain's 41 airports open for public use registered an increase of 6.49% and 7.43% respectively, totaling more than 151 million of passengers and more than 1.5 million airship movements. Of the 41 mentioned airports, seven of them registered more than 8 million passengers; Madrid airport (35.4 million), Barcelona (22.5 million), and Palma de Mallorca (19.1 million).

Spain wishes to continue paying special attention to cooperative programs in the next triennium with developing countries, finalizing new agreements of technical cooperation with different countries, in harmony with the goals and principles that the ICAO promotes.

For all the above reasons, Spain would appreciate the valuable support of the United States in its re-election as member of the ICAO Council.

End translation.

4. Embassy requests advice on how to respond.

ARGYROS